

IV. REMARKS

1. Claims 12, 14 and 19 are currently amended. Claims 8-11, 13 and 32-34 are cancelled without prejudice. The specification is amended.

2. The specification is amended to update the Cross-Reference to Related Applications section to include the U.S. Patent Number.

3. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of the allowability of Claims 1, 3-7 and 28-31.

4. It is respectfully submitted that Claim 12, as amended, is not disclosed or suggested by Grisham in view of Will as applied to Claim 11, and in further view of Nishiyama et al. ("Nishiyama").

Nishiyama does not disclose or suggest that the "end parts are further adjoined by at least one beam-shaped leg part extending along the shaft part for providing a stiff structure for the carrier" as recited in Claim 12. The Examiner is referred to, for example, FIGS. 5 and 6, and page 10, lines 11-16. Although Nishiyama describes a boss shaft 16 and a hollow flange 18 rotatably engaged with each other, (Col. 6, lines 16-19) there is no suggestion of a "beam-shaped leg part extending along the shaft part or that the shaft part is retained between two "plate-shape end parts" as recited in Claim 12. In Nishiyama the sleeve shaft 22 is formed in the button shaft 19, and the sleeve shaft 22 and a sleeve flange 20 are rotatably engaged with each other. (Col. 6, lines 20-22).

The rotatable hollow flange 18 and sleeve flange 20 are fixed by chassis 17. This allows the operation section 4 and display

section 2 to be freely engaged so they can be folded on one another via the joint portion 3. (Col. 6, lines 27-27) This is not the same as what is claimed by Applicant. In Nishiyama, there are no "plate-shaped end parts" or at least one beam-shaped leg part extending along the shaft part and adjoining the end part. Thus, Claim 12 as amended is not disclosed or suggested by Grisham and Will, further in view of Nishiyama pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

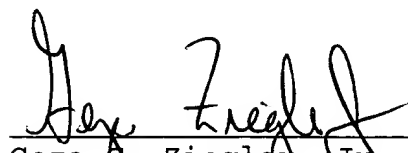
Claims 14-19 depend from Claim 12 and should be allowable at least in view of the dependencies.

5. The Examiner is requested to take notice that the Filing Receipt fails to acknowledge the inventor "Christian Kraft" who was listed on the New Application Transmittal filed April 5, 2000. A request for corrected filing receipt was filed on April 8, 2003. A copy is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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23 APRIL 2003
Date

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